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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PPS

DATE: 24 April 1957

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #17

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A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Through the generosity of FE, a Korean native speaker will spend about two weeks making recordings for our collection.

2. Arrangements with the FSI have been completed for a special non-scheduled intensive Hungarian course to meet a "crash" EE requirement for two students. Course will run from 3 June to Christmas. This relieves us of need to employ a contract native speaker.

3. We have notified NEA and SE of five intensive, full-time summer courses in Arabic, Persian and Turkish at SAIS.

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4. [REDACTED] C/FE/ [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] his imminent replacement, came in to discuss in broad and long-range terms language training. Several new and potentially useful ideas were discussed related to both HQ and O/S training.

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5. [REDACTED] of the Management Staff has been given responsibility for doing staff study dealing with staff requirements arising out of the out-of-hours language program. He and [REDACTED] have had one extensive general conversation, to be continued next week.

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6. Because of the heavy QRP docket for the regular scheduled meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month (seventeen persons), [REDACTED] held panels for three candidates for Indonesian, two for SAIS and one for Portuguese during the third week. The Indonesian panel was especially profitably and may lead to considerably advantageous modification of the original plan proposed by FE.

7. What first appeared to be obsessional destruction of a Russian-made wall map was reported to DDTR and to Security. An investigation ensued and the case was closed with conclusion that destruction was "an act of God," so to speak.

8. We now are trying to locate non-OTR staff employees to serve as instructors for the after-hours courses in French, German and Polish.

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9. [redacted] course on Free Europe started this week, with 22 students present of the 25 enrolled. Curriculum has been given a major overhaul to allow more time for strategic problems of the four leading nations of the area, and for class discussions. Across-the-board treatment of regional problems has been tightened without sacrificing essentials. As an experimental assessment device and shock therapy, a 30-minute factual quiz (copies attached) largely on the contemporary scene, was given the first day. Performance is considered poor: average score, 61%; highest, 89%; lowest, 29%. All the students are presently working on some aspect of Western Europe.

10. Arrangements were made during this period for private tutoring in Swedish for a member of WE/[redacted]. This is the second member of WE/[redacted] to be given outside private lessons in Swedish during the past three months.

11. Both the Graphic Aids Section and [redacted] are to be commended for their 100% support on updating [redacted] various charts for this introductory "Survey of Strategic Problems" in the Free Europe course.

12. We again are having difficulty maintaining before-hours coverage of the Lab. Two mornings this week the lab has not been attended. We were not given prior notice in order to make emergency plans ourselves.

13. We are exploring the suitability and availability of a possible Swahili instructor known to us in the Washington area with a view to becoming able to offer Swahili instruction.

14. [redacted] of FDD and [redacted] of LAS met with the man responsible for development of a Kazakh dictionary and grammar. Both agreed possession of the end result was worth the estimated cost. Possibilities for final arrangements now are being explored.

15. In expectation of gaining the [redacted] as an external Language Training Center by early summer, we have decided against a return to [redacted]. Our tentative plan is to take the Russian group to the [redacted] for from four to six weeks at a time that will not interfere with tentatively planned use during the summer by courses in French, German, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese.

16. A meeting was held on Thursday, 18 April, for all contract instructors, to introduce them to [redacted] and [redacted] also assisted in the discussion of the special personnel problems of this group. [redacted] has been working with the Personnel and Finance Offices on these problems over the past few weeks. While the problems of special passes remains unsolved, it is felt that much otherwise has been accomplished in clarifying the status of this group.

17. The first East European evening course will be Second-Year Polish, for which four requests have been received.

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18. The Polish Newspaper Reader, prepared by [REDACTED] has been delivered to the printer, who will reproduce it by the off-set process.

19. The regular Norwegian test was given for three people on 11 April. Mr. [REDACTED] of FDD served on the panel for the oral test.

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20. On 8 April, [REDACTED] gave a two-hour lecture on the Languages of the Indian Sub-Continent as part of Mr. [REDACTED] area course on the Indian Sub-Continent.

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W { 21. On 8 and 9 April, [REDACTED] went to FSI to hear prof. John Carroll of Harvard discuss problems of language proficiency testing. In this connection he made the acquaintance of Dr. Salomon Trevino, who is now in charge of language proficiency testing for FSI.

22. Dr. Trevino came to consult [REDACTED] on 17 April. There was a full sharing of views and plans. This will be a continuing liaison; Dr. Trevino is eager to cooperate fully in developing the testing program for the greatest benefit of both agencies.

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23. On 11 and 15 April, [REDACTED] attended meetings of the Committee on Language Development. At the first of these meetings, he reported on the current status of the testing program.

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24. On 15 April, [REDACTED] met with [REDACTED] (OTR), [REDACTED] (Forms Management Staff), and [REDACTED] (Office of the Comptroller) for further discussion of the new forms to be used for reporting proficiency test results.

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25. [REDACTED] finished his work on the revision of the chart showing time requirements for foreign language achievement.

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26. The Spanish test was given for seven people on 18 April.

27. [REDACTED] entered Walter Reed Hospital on 22 April to have an operation to correct a knee ailment.

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28. The following courses are now in progress:

Elementary Arabic Reading (4 hours per week)
Basic Intensive Chinese (40 hours per week)
Intermediate Chinese (Mandarin) (5 hours per week)
Semi-intensive Elementary Spoken French (I) (10 hours per week)
Semi-intensive Elementary Spoken French (II) (10 hours per week)
Intermediate Spoken French (I) (6 hours per week)
Intermediate Spoken French (II) (6 hours per week)
Elementary German Reading (6 hours per week)
German Applied Translation (4 hours per week)
Semi-intensive Spoken German (I) (10 hours per week)
Intensive Full-Time German (40 hours per week)

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Elementary Greek (I) (5 hours per week)
Intermediate Greek (7½ hours per week)
Basic Intensive Japanese (40 hours per week)
Elementary Japanese I & I-A (6 3/4 hours per week)
Intermediate Japanese II & II-A (6 hours per week)
Advanced Japanese III & III-A (6 hours per week)
Basic Intensive Persian (40 hours per week)
Elementary Persian Reading-Evenings (4 hours per week)
Elementary Persian-Evenings (6 hours per week)
Intensive Polish (40 hours per week)
Economic Russian Reading (II) (6 hours per week)
Scientific Russian Reading (II) (6 hours per week)
Short Course in Russian Reading (4 hours per week)
Russian Familiarization (2 hours per week)
Short Course in Elementary Russian (II) (4½ hours per week)
Basic Intensive Russian (40 hours per week)
Integrated Russian Program (II) (6 hours per week)
Elementary Spoken Spanish (I)--Class A (10 hours per week)
Elementary Spoken Spanish (I)--Class B (10 hours per week)
Intermediate Spoken Spanish (I) (6 hours per week)
Intensive Full-Time Spanish (40 hours per week)
Elementary Spoken Turkish (5 hours per week)
Regional Survey: East Asia (7½ hours per week)
Regional Survey: Indian Sub-Continent (6 hours per week)
Regional Survey: Russia in Asia (4 hours per week)
Regional Survey: Free Europe (7 hours per week)
Special Briefing on Middle East for Commo Personnel (12 hours total)

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→ TOTAL: 38 courses

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